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ST. NEOTS
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
and
Surveyor & Chief Sanitary
Inspector
FOR THE YEAR
1951



ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951

by

M. M. MARKHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my second Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the District.

Your obedient servant,

M. M. MARKHAM.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health.

M. M. MARKHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor and Water Engineer.

M. FAWCETT, M.S.I.A., M.R. San.I.

(Tel. St. Neots 402/3 and Buckden 282).

Additional Sanitary Inspector and Assistant Surveyor.

G. O. MARCH, M.S.I.A., A.R. San.I.

(Tel. Kimbolton 303).

Water Superintendent.

S. G. ERRIDGE (Tel. Kimbolton 348).

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area: 52,559 acres (approximately 81 square miles).

Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1951:—2,341.

Rateable Value of the District: £27,842.

Value of a Penny Rate: £108.

Estimated Population (Mid 1950) 7,711.

Estimated Population (Mid 1951) 7,838.

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

	M.	F.	Total	Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated population (Ditto for England and Wales)	
Legitimate	64	63	127	...	16. 7
Illegitimate	3	1	4	...	16. 7
Total	67	64	131		

STILL BIRTHS

	M.	F.	Total	Rate per 1,000 estimated population (Ditto for England and Wales)	
Legitimate	1	2	3	...	0.38
Illegitimate	-	-	-	...	0.36
Total	1	2	3		

DEATHS (ALL AGES)

	M.	F.	Total	Death-rate per 1,000 estimated population (Ditto for England and Wales)	
	47	52	99	...	12. 6
				...	12. 5

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	1	1	2

DEATH RATES OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	22. 9
(Ditto for England and Wales)	...	29. 6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	15.75
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	-

CAUSES OF DEATH.

(Registrar General's List).

List No.	Cause	Male	Female
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	1
2	Tuberculosis, other	—	—
3	Syphilitic	1	—
4	Diphtheria	—	—
5	Whooping cough	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
8	Measles	—	—

9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	—	—
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	2	—
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	1	—
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	—	2
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	—	—
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	3	4
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	—	1
16	Diabetes	...	—	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	5	12
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	5	2
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	2	—
20	Other heart disease	...	6	10
21	Other circulatory disease	...	2	2
22	Influenza	...	2	3
23	Pneumonia	...	2	1
24	Bronchitis	...	3	3
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	—	—
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	—	—
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	—	—
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	—	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	1	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	—	1
31	Congenital malformations	...	—	—
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	5	7
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	3	—
34	All other accidents	...	1	—
35	Suicide	...	1	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	—	—
	Total all causes	...	47	52

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

The following Laboratory Facilities have been available to this authority and to General Practitioners in the area:

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.
Tel. Cambridge 55526.

Public Analyst (S. Greenburgh, PH.D., B.Sc., F.I.C.), Tennison Road, Cambridge. Tel. Cambridge 2097.

(b) Ambulance Services.

(i) Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service, operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service, have been available on doctor's orders (Tel. Huntingdon 67).

(ii) An ambulance stationed at Huntingdon Isolation Hospital has been available for cases of infectious disease (Tel. Huntingdon 59).

(c) Home Nursing.

Nurse-midwives employed and supervised by the Huntingdon County Council carried out Home Nursing and attended Maternity Cases in the District:—

- (i) A nurse residing in Great Staughton (Tel. Kimbolton 271), attended cases in Kimbolton, Great Staughton, Grafham, Perry, Tilbrook, Dillington and Hail Weston.
- (ii) A nurse residing in Eltisley (Tel. Croxton 210), attended cases in Gt. Paxton, The Offords, Toseland, Yelling, Great Gransden, Waresley and Abbotsley.
- (iii) A nurse residing in Brampton (Tel. Huntingdon 336), attended in Buckden, Diddington and Southoe.
- (iv) A nurse residing in Catworth (Tel. Bythorn 217), attended in Catworth and Covington.
- (v) Little Paxton was attended by a nurse living in St. Neots (Tel. St. Neots 215).

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

- (1) The following Health Services, provided by the Huntingdon County Council, were available:—

Clinic	Patients seen.	When held	Where held.
Minor Ailments	Schoolchildren	1st Thursday in month 10—11.30 a.m.	Liberal Club, St. Neots.
		1st Friday in month, 10.30—11.30 a.m.	Village Hall, Great Staughton.
		Every Monday, 9.30—10.30 a.m.	Old Grammar School, Huntingdon.
Infant Welfare	Children (0—5 years)	Every Wednesday and Thursday, 2—4 p.m.	Liberal Club, St. Neots.
		3rd Monday in month, 2—4 p.m.	Mandeville Hall, Kimbolton.
		3rd Tuesday in month, 2—4 p.m.	Methodist Schoolroom, Buckden.
		1st Friday in month 2—4 p.m.	Village Hall, Great Staughton.
		3rd Monday in month, 2—4 p.m.	Reading Room, Gt. Gransden.
Dental	Pre-School and School- children.	1st Thursday in month, 10 a.m.—12 noon, 2—2.30 p.m.	Red Cross Room, High Street, St. Neots.
	Pre-Natal & Nursing Mothers.	Every Wednesday (ex- cept 2nd in month) and every Saturday. 10 a.m.—12 noon (by appointment).	Princes Street, Hunt- ingdon.

(II) The following Health Services are the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board, but administered on an agency basis by the Huntingdon County Council:—

Clinic	Patients seen.	When held	Where held.
Ophthalmic	Pre-School and School-children.	1st and 3rd Fridays in month (by appointment, except in emergency), 10 a.m.—12 noon, 2—4 p.m.	Old Grammar School, Huntingdon.
Orthopaedic	Ditto.	2nd and 4th Tuesdays in month (by appointment), 10 a.m.—12 noon.	Ditto.

(III) The following Health Services were provided by the Regional Hospital Board:—

Clinic	Patients seen.	When held	Where held.
Chest	All ages	Every Thursday, 10 a.m.—12 noon.	County Hospital, Huntingdon.
Venereal Diseases	All cases	Mondays, 3—7 p.m. Wednesdays, 4—6.30 p.m.	Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.
		Males: Mondays, 5.30 p.m. Thursdays, 5.30 p.m.	28, Fitzwilliam Street,
		Females: Wednesdays, 5.30 p.m. Fridays, 10.30 a.m.	Peterborough.

Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, Paediatric, Skin Obstetrical, Gynaecological and Dental Out-patient Clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

(e) Hospital Services.

Fever:—Huntingdon Isolation Hospital provided facilities for the investigation and treatment of infectious diseases.

General Hospital Services were provided by the County Hospital, Huntingdon, and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Maternity Cases were admitted to Paxton Park Maternity Home, St. Neots. Admissions are arranged through the County Medical Officer.

CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

	Total Cases Notified
Scarlet Fever	... 8
Whooping Cough	... 20
Diphtheria	... -
Measles	... 130
Acute Pneumonia	... 5
Puerperal Pyrexia	... 8
Typhoid Fever	... -
Erysipelas	... 1
Acute Poliomyelitis	... -
	—
	172

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

From figures available at 31st December, 1951, it was shown that 47.73 per cent. of the child population (0—14 years) have received a primary course of immunisation to protect them from diphtheria. 61.96 per cent. of the babies (0—4 years) were so protected.

Facilities for diphtheria immunisation are available at Infant Welfare Clinics, through the School Medical Service, and from General Practitioners.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Total number on Register at 31st December, 1951: Pulmonary, 25; Non-Pulmonary, 17.

Age Periods.			New Cases.				Deaths.			
			Respiratory		Non - Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	...	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10	...	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	...	...	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
20	...	...	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
25	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	...	...	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
45	...	...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 & upwards			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...		2	5	4	1	2	1	—	—

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

REPORT OF SURVEYOR AND CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

WATER SUPPLY

The Council have main water schemes in all their parishes as detailed in previous reports. In certain portions of the area near the borders some properties receive a main water supply direct from neighbouring Authorities.

The mains extensions in London Lane and Church Lane, Gt. Paxton, and Brook End, Catworth, were completed during the year.

In the Tilbrook area of the Kimbolton Scheme, trouble is experienced from time to time with the exterior corrosion of the cast iron water mains. At present, the frequency of these defects does not warrant the re-laying of this portion of the main, but owing to the geographical position of Tilbrook, whenever a defect occurs the water supply to three further villages is affected.

Approval has not yet been received for the proposed cross-country trunk main, from Red Hill to Southoe, Midloe and Hail Weston.

It has been decided to plant the area of land adjacent to the Gt. Staughton Reservoir with Poplar trees during 1952 (about 6 acres).

A new van for the use of the Water Department was obtained during the year.

A proposal to construct a swimming bath at Kimbolton Castle, for Kimbolton School, was approved during the year. When this work is completed, other schools in the area will be granted facilities to use same.

The proposed new Byelaws under Section 17 of the Water Act, 1945, have not yet been adopted, pending a decision regarding B.S.S. 1010 and B.S.S. 1212.

The great majority of the houses in the area now have a main water supply, following voluntary action or informal action by the Council, but in a number of cases informal action has not resulted in the laying on of a main water supply. Private supplies of water have been, and are being, systematically checked and sampled. Several formal notices followed such action, and in only one case was it necessary for the Council to carry out the work in default and recover the cost, as the rest of the notices were complied with. 90 houses were connected to the water mains following such action.

MAIN PIPED SUPPLIES.

Source of Supply.	Parishes Supplied.	Daily Consumption.
a. South Cambs. R.D.C.	Abbotsley, Waresley, Gt. Gransden, Tetworth and part of Eynesbury Hard.	18,000 galls.
b. Raunds U.D.C.	Kimbolton, Covington, Catworth, Tilbrook and Stow.	39,000 galls.
c. Diddington (St. Neots R.D.C.)	Buckden, Diddington, Grafham, Southoe, Lt. Paxton, Hail Weston, Offords, Gt. Paxton, Toseland and Yelling.	66,000 galls. (Includes Polish Camp)

d. Staughton Moor (St. Neots R.D.C.)	Gt. Staughton and Perry.	20,000 galls. (Includes H.M. Borstal Institution).
e. St. Neots U.D.C.	St. Neots Rural & Eynesbury Hardwicke.	Not known.

ANNUAL RAINFALL at Gt. Gransden Hall: 27.76 inches.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS ON RAW WATER.

14 samples were obtained from Diddington well, and 10 of these had no count whatsoever, 3 of the remaining samples showed only slight contamination, and the other sample had a count of 80b.coli per 100 ml. of water, and this, in my opinion, was due to flooding. Samples of the treated water taken at the same time were in every case entirely satisfactory, as also were subsequent raw water samples. All samples from Staughton Moor supply are raw in that this supply receives no treatment.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS ON TREATED WATER.

Satisfactory samples during the year were as follows:—

South Cambs. R.D.C.: 12 samples; Raunds U.D.C.: 13 samples; Diddington: 13 samples; Staughton: 12 samples; Total 50. 3 other samples taken from the South Cambs. R.D.C. supply were slightly unsatisfactory, and joint action with South Cambs. R.D.C. remedied the situation. During the year 6 samples obtained from Gt. Staughton were classed as unsatisfactory. In 5 of these the count varied between 2 and 8, and the remaining sample had 35b.coli per 100ml. of water. Action taken included chlorinating the reservoir and flushing the water mains; subsequent samples have been entirely satisfactory.

PARTICULARS OF ANY CHEMICAL ANALYSES.

A check on the Cuprosolvency of the Diddington supply has been maintained during the year. 9 chemical samples from this supply were entirely satisfactory, and a further 2 samples showed some traces of copper. I understand that the amount of copper found is a good deal less than that found in the supplies of other Authorities in the Eastern Region. The Ministry has suggested further sampling during the next six months in order to assess whether any action should be taken. 2 samples of copper piping have been analysed by the Copper Development Association and found to be satisfactory. A further chemical sample from this scheme was tested for plumbo-solvency and no trace of lead was found.

WELLS.

New wells sunk: Nil. Wells cleansed and repaired: 1. Wells closed as polluted: 36. Number of samples obtained for analysis found to be satisfactory: 17; unsatisfactory: 22. Action taken: Main Water substituted for unsatisfactory well supplies. Any insufficiency: No.

COUNTY OF HUNTINGDON
REPORT ON WATER SUPPLY FOR THE ST. NEOTS RURAL DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR 1951

Estimated No. of Estimated Popu-
Dwellings Supplied. lation Supplied.

Name of Town, Village or Parish	Source of Supply, Public Supply, Wells, etc.	Sufficiency or Otherwise	Quality of Water	Analyses of In- dividual Supplies. Satisfactory, Unsatis- factory, or none.	No. of such Analyses.	Direct from Main Supply.	By Stand-pipes. By Public or Private Wells.	Direct from Main Supply.	By Stand-pipes. By Public or Private Wells.
Abbotsley	Public Main	Suff.	Satis.	Nil	—	51	42	173	82
Buckden	"	"	"	3 Sat.	3	206	84	610	240
Catworth	"	"	"	Nil	—	45	44	180	127
Covington	"	"	"	Nil	—	15	14	52	50
Diddington	"	"	"	Nil	—	33	3	115(a)	11
Eynesbury H.	U.D.C. Mains & Wells	"	"	Nil	—	16	9	60	46
Grafham	Public Main	"	"	Nil	—	60	9	172	28
Gt. Gransden	"	"	"	1 Sat.	1	94	44	235	115
Gt. Paxton	"	"	"	Nil	—	101	12	268	36
Gt. Staughton	"	"	"	1 Sat.	1	140	85	580(b)	152
Hail Weston	"	"	"	Nil	—	68	19	200	50
Kimbolton	"	"	"	2 Unsat.	2	215	64	815(c)	177
Lt. Paxton	"	"	"	1 Sat.	11	40	9	135	25
Offord Cluny	"	"	"	10 Unsat.	6	73	15	180	43
Offord Darcy	"	"	"	2 Unsat.	8	72	16	200	44
Southoe & Midloe	"	"	"	6 Sat.	6	38	19	110	50
St. Neots Rural	U.D.C. Mains & Wells	"	"	2 Unsat.	—	16	—	50	—
Stow	Public Main	"	"	Nil	—	27	8	92	26
Tetworth	Biggswade Water Board, South Cambs. R.D.C.,	"	"	1 Sat.	1	21	5	63	14
Tilbrook	Public Main	"	"	Nil	—	54	25	135	70
Toseland	"	"	"	Nil	—	29	13	109	30
Waresley	"	"	"	Nil	—	42	9	137	30
Yelling	"	"	"	Nil	—	54	14	148	40
					39	1510	562	269	4810
									1486
									715
									2341
									7011
									Plus Polish Camp ...
									(Direct from Mains)
									700
									7711

Notes—(a) Does not include Polish School, which varies up to 700 persons.

(b) Includes H.M. Borstal Institution at Gaynes Hall.

(c) Includes Kimbolton School Boarders.

Particulars regarding plumbo-solvent action connected with above supplies: 1 Sample taken—no lead found

SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

No progress has been made with regard to the post-war sewerage schemes during the year, except that sites for the works and Pumping Stations have been agreed with the owners of the land and the Authorities concerned. In December, 1951, a Ministry Enquiry was held into the Buckden—Offord Scheme and the result is now awaited. It is hoped that the Ministry Enquiry for the Kimbolton—Gt. Staughton Scheme will be held early in 1952. The problem of sewerage disposal still remains, especially in the larger villages, and in view of the new Rivers Pollution Act steady progress will have to be made with sewerage schemes.

The comprehensive ditching scheme for Toseland was started at the end of the year, and it is hoped that this scheme will prevent further flooding in the village. An existing sewage works at Catworth was taken over and made to serve about one-third of the village after laying a communicating sewer.

During the year arrangements were made with the Hospital Board whereby a Sewerage Works which they intend constructing at Little Paxton will ultimately be able to serve the Mill Lane area of Little Paxton. The extra cost being borne by the Council, and a new length of sewer will be necessary when the works are constructed. A scheme of this nature is advantageous to both bodies.

Fifteen piped sewers and one open ditch received attention during the year.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING.

50 private and 3 public cesspools were emptied during the year under the scheme set out in the 1950 report. In addition, the Council's own staff regularly cleanse the sewerage tanks on the Council's Housing Sites, as one afternoon per week is set aside for this work.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Apart from the difficulty in obtaining suitable labour, this work has been carried out throughout the whole of the district as outlined in the 1947 report in an efficient manner. The arrangements with Biggleswade R.D.C. still operate. The three controlled refuse tips at Stirtloe, Stonely and Lt. Paxton are still used.

The refuse collection vehicle was completely overhauled at the makers' works, and another vehicle was hired for about a month while the Council's own wagon was off the road.

SALVAGE.

The following salvage was collected during the year:—

Waste paper, 22 tons 17 cwts.; rags, 2½ cwts.; lead, 4 cwts. The total value was £229.

A competition organised between the thirteen schools in the area produced 10 tons 9 cwts. of waste paper. The rest of the salvage was collected by the Council's own workmen under their Bonus Scheme. As stated in the 1950 report, the figures may not appear to be very good, but considerable quantity of waste paper is sold direct to the Dealer by such bodies as Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, etc., in view of the present value of this material.

PETROLEUM STORAGE LICENCES.

Two new applications were received during the year, making 35 on the Register.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

There is no increase in the number of sites licensed, and this remains at 7. Six improvements to condition were made. One application for a licence was refused due to the total lack of sanitation and water supply.

Of course, there are many seasonal workers employed in the area from time to time, and difficulties often arise with regard to the control of moveable dwellings used by them, as the length of time they remain on a particular site does not require a licence. When steps are taken to require proper sanitation it usually results in the moveable dwelling being moved outside the area, and the conditions may still continue to exist. In my opinion, the law requires strengthening in this respect.

COUNCIL HOUSE MAINTENANCE.

712 inspections were made and 361 orders for repairs were issued. A number of Ministry of Fuel and Power approved type of heating appliances have been installed in the old Council houses. This is being carried out as a gradual improvement and it will perhaps be some years before a complete change over is effected. The new ranges will, of course, provide a hot water supply as soon as the Council can see their way to install baths, etc. In many cases the lack of proper sewage disposal arrangements prevents such improvements taking place. Of course, all the new houses are fitted with approved appliances.

BUILDING LICENCES.

29 licences were granted during 1951.

NEW BUILDINGS.

115 plans of new buildings or alterations were deposited. Four plans were rejected on account of unsatisfactory water supply, or drainage, or heights of rooms, or space at rear being less than byelaw standard. In one case no through ventilation was provided. 319 visits were paid to works in progress.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

Only 10 retailers are registered with the Council, as all other dealers are producers, and therefore within the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Agriculture. Three inspections of premises were carried out. The Council have issued 6 supplementary licences for T.T. and 7 for Pasteurised milk.

FOOD INSPECTIONS.

During the year, 182 lbs. of food were condemned as unfit for consumption, this was chiefly tinned food, cheese and ham. 16 premises are registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

A copy of the new Food Byelaws which came into force on the 1st April, 1951, has been sent to all Food premises, and systematic inspection of the premises has gradually been taking place. There are very few large places employing food handlers, and generally hygienic standards are satisfactory. 49 inspections were made.

3 samples of ice cream were submitted to bacteriological examination, and 2 of these were placed in Grade II and 1 in Grade IV. There are no Manufacturers of ice cream in the area, and the bulk of ice cream sold is prepacked by the large Manufacturers in the country.

SLAUGHTERMEN'S LICENCES.

There is no change to the position reported in the 1950 report.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949 REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1951

		Type of Property				
		Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricul- tural	All other (in- cluding Business & Industrial)	Total
I	Total number of properties in Local Authority's District	20	2320	350	167	2857
II	Number of properties in- spected by the Local Authority during 1951 as a result (a) of notification, or (b) otherwise	(a) — (b) 5	36 —	28 —	10 —	74 5
III	Number of properties (under II) found to be infested by rats ...	Major 3 Minor 2	1 33	8 15	3 3	15 53
IV	Number of properties (under II) found to be seriously in- fested by mice ...	—	—	—	1	1
V	Number of infested properties (under III and IV) treated by the Local Authority ...	5	34	23	7	69
VI	Number of notices served under Section 4:—					
	(1) Treatment ...	—	—	—	—	—
	(2) Structural Works ... (i.e. Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
	Total ...					
VII	Number of cases in which de- fault action was taken by Local Authority following the issue of notice under Section 4 ...	—	—	—	—	—
VIII	Legal Proceedings ...	—	—	—	—	—
IX	Number of 'block' control schemes carried out ...	—	—	—	—	3

POST WAR HOUSING.

The number of new Council houses built is as follows:—

Parish	Completed during year	Under construction	Total built since 1945
Abbotsley	... —	4	8
Buckden	... 3	—	30
Gt. Gransden	... 2	2	14
Gt. Staughton	... 4	2	14
Gt. Paxton	... —	—	16
Kimbolton	... —	—	6
Offord Darcy	... —	—	4
Offord Cluny	... 14	12	18
Stow Longa	... —	—	4
Tilbrook	... —	—	8
Yelling	... —	—	6
Grafham	... —	—	6
Hail Weston	... —	9	14
Little Paxton	... —	—	4
Southoe	... —	—	4
Covington	... 2	—	2
	—	—	—
	25	29	158 plus
	—	—	—

20 pre-fabs and
12 converted hut-
ments.

5 new private enterprise houses were completed during the year, and 2 additional houses were provided by conversions.

HOUSING INSPECTION.

Owing to the shortage of housing accommodation it has not been possible during 1951 to seriously tackle the problem of the unfit houses existing in the area. Until sufficient new houses have been constructed no real headway can be made with the repair and improvement, or demolition of existing houses. Defects of an urgent character have been dealt with, usually by notices under the Public Health Act, 1936. The undermentioned table shows the work undertaken.

HOUSING TABLE

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year:—
 - (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 175
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 279
 - (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... —
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... —
 - (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 3
 - (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 162
2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... 95

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners ... —

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... —

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... 27

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners ... 24

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... 1

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... —

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... 4

(3) Undertakings to make fit accepted ... 3

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... —

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... —

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... 3

(2) Number of families dwelling therein ... 3

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... 18½

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... 1

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... 3

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... 10

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... —

(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ... —

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE:—

Total number of notices served	...	189
Informal	...	162
Formal	...	27
Total number of notices complied with	...	119
Informal	...	95
Formal	...	24
Work in default	...	1

ANALYSIS OF INSPECTIONS MADE:—

Housing	...	23
Council House Maintenance	...	712
Houses, etc. Under P.H. Act, 1936	...	156
Houses, etc. Under P.H. Act, 1936, re-visits	...	90
Supervising erection of new buildings	...	319
Sewers and Sewage Disposal	...	168
Post War Housing	...	109
Civil Defence	...	24
Dairies	...	3
Bakehouses	...	4
Drains Tested	...	79
Infectious Disease	...	9
Rooms Disinfected	...	6
Ice Cream (samples taken 3)	...	3
Vermin	...	15
Requisitioning	...	2
Water Supply (samples taken bact. 112 chem. 11)	...	959
Scavenging	...	41
Food Premises	...	49
Rats and Mice	...	15
Building Licences	...	20
Salvage	...	16
Miscellaneous	...	78
Moveable Dwellings	...	24
Factories (with power)	...	6
Outworkers	...	4
Interviews	...	556
Housing Applications	...	20
Overcrowding	...	1
Petroleum	...	4
Total Defects Remedied or Nuisances abated	...	516

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, ETC.

Number of houses with pail or tub closets in area (est.)	...	1403
Number of houses with W.C.'s in area (est.)	...	880
Number of pails reconstructed as W.C.'s in 1951	...	35
Number of new additional W.C.'s provided at existing property	...	18
Number of W.C.'s constructed in 1951 for new premises	...	60
Number of new pails provided	...	30
Number of new dustbins provided	...	21

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Total number on Register (including bakehouse)	...	61
No. of inspections	...	19
Number in which defects remedied (none found)	...	Nil
Bakehouses, number on Register	...	9
Number in which defects remedied	...	Nil
Number of notices served	...	Nil
Number of notices complied with	...	Nil

